

THE DISCOVERY

OF

CAPTAIN BURT

and

ALDERMAN BROOKS.

Of a new *Design* of the *Papists*, to
invalidate the Evidence of Mr. *OWTS* and
Mr. *BEDLOW*, and to charge the late *Plot*
upon the

PROTESTANTS

Of this

KINGDOME.

WHEREIN

Are the Depositions of the said *Bury* and *Brooks*, as they were taken
before Sr. *Joseph Williamson* Kr. one of his Majesties late
Principal Secretaries of State.

Num^r 23. 23. *Surely there is no Inchantment against Jacob, neither
is there any Divination against Israel, &c.*

Printed in the Year 1679.

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gins to behold their villanies, then they endeavour and do all they can to faither them upon the innocent Protestants, to make them odious, to quit and excuse themselves; which is visible by the Narrative of the Powar Plot, which (though they themselves were to be the bloody Actors of, as may be undenyably prov'd) yet they have attempted to devolve it upon and impie at to the Puritans as a trick of theirs. Oh devilish policy!

And though this late Hellish Plot (discovered by men of their own party) was to be manag'd and carried on by their own black Crue, which is as evident as that the Sun shines at Noon day) yet you will see by the ensuing Depositions, that they would have charg'd it upon a people whose Principles are as contrary to such practices as Light is to Darknes, and who are so far from assassinating the Sacred Person of his Majesty, that they would venture their Lives and Fortunes in his Royal Service, however this may have been formerly stigmatized, for which they may thank these damnable Conspirators.

The Depositions following are a true Copy of the Original, which was given in to Sr. Joseph Williamson, though they are not cloath'd with such Language as might be expected, yet for the sake of Truth, I am unwilling to alter a tittle. And in regard there are some expressions not so clearly to be apprehended by the bare reading of them, I think it convenient to acquaint the Reader that Kasper who is mentioned in the Depositions is an Irish man and a Rank Papist, and lately a servant to and supposed to be Employed by ———— and was the chief Agent in this Design. Netterville and Erner are of the same Faction, and now (or lately) Prisoners in the Marshalsea, and have since confes'd the whole matter upon Examination. As for the Deponents they are both true Protestants and of former acquaintance with Netterville, and have shewn kindnesses

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to him in times past, and were also intimate with Mr. Blood, and therefore suppos'd by Netterville to be the fittest instrument for the carrying on of this business.

The Depositions of Capt. Bury.

ON the 11th. of this instant January, I received the annexed Note from Mr. James Netterville, on the 13th. I went to him, as soon as I came, he told me he had something to impart to me in private; we went into a room alone, and he asked me if I did not hear that there were persons making inquiry to find out some that would accuse those that had impeached the Lords, and those concerned about the Plot, I told him I heard nothing of it; he told me there were such and that I shou'd find the Game would turn another way, and that I might do myself a kindness if I pleased, I told him my affairs call'd me for Ireland, that I must be gone on the Thursday following, He told me it wou'd be worth my while to stay, and asked me if I could not prove that one Mr. Digby had meetings with Mr. Oates and Mr. Bedlow, I told him no; for he knew there had been no great friendship of late betwixt us. (This I took upon as an introduction to the design.) But he came close to me and told me a person had been with him concerning this matter, and that indeed they had been told of Mr. Blood, and if I would discover any thing of that nature against him I should have 4. or 5000 l. for my pains. To this I seemed to hearken (but was much surpris'd at this unexpected Discourse) and did plainly shew the design was to turn the Game another way, as he said before, I did not discourage him, but

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told him I would consider of it, and if I did not go on *Thursday* I would see him again, and that he knew well I was very hard to believe this *Plot*; and then he told me that he could bring a Prisoner in that place to drink a pot of Ale with me that could give me an account what a Rogue Mr. *Bedlow* was, but being in haste, took my leave of him, he injoyning me to secrecy, at my return I could not meet with Mr. *Blood*, but having some business with Sir *Ralph Dalsvall* and the Lady *Eliz.* his Daughter, and being full with a sense of this Divellish Design, I told the Story to them, and said when I was in *Ireland*, I should hear, and they would find, that this was the game they intended to play, to turn the *PLOT* from themselves, and doubted not but they would find some to carry it on.

On the 14th. in the morning I went to Mr. *Blood's* House and acquainted him with it, he desired me to meet him in the Evening because he desired to consider of it, but told me then he had no reason to slight it, because the morning before a Knight had been with him and told him there was a design against him of the same kind; and desired him to inquire after it.

In the Evening I met with Mr. *Blood*, who desired me to keep my correspondence with the said *Winterhills*, and to know to him how I should be secured my paym^ts, and what it was they would have me do.

On the 16th. I went accordingly to him and told him I had considered of what we had discoursed before, and had stopt my journey as to that day, he was very glad to hear so, and told me, that the party had been with him again about the business, and might bring yet some without any prejudice to my self, I told him that money would do

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Sr. Tho.
Longvile

Ruffel.

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 me a great kindness at this time; (for he knew I had waited a long time here, and that it was very hard with me) therefore desired to know what they would have me do, and how I should be sure of the 500 l. for I expected it should be a person of good credit that would lay down the 500 l. he told me that I should not need to question that, for they were of credit enough, but he that came to him * was only imployed to pay the money, and if I shall tell Ruffel. him that you will do the business you shall be sure of the money. Not so said I, first let me know what it is distinctly, and how I shall be sure of the 500 l. else I shall not stir a foot in it, but be gone on *Munday*, saith he would you have the money before hand, then may be you will not do it, no said I that I do not desire, but will you deposit it in a third hand? truly said he that is very fair, and I doubt not but they will do it, (for I told him none was better able to carry it on than you, for Mr. Blood's man was formerly your Servant, and preferred by you to him) and told me that on *Saturday* by two or 3 of the Clock, his friend* would be with him again, but that he would be shy of discoursing with me, and desired that I would come again to him on *Munday* and then I should understand more. Ruffel.
 Upon my return I acquainted Mr. Blood with the whole discourse, and that I was to leave the town on *Munday*, having staid my utmost time, because I had a suit Depending in Chancery at Dublin, and that if I were not there the beginning of the Term it would be great damage to me, because my absence would be look'd upon as a contempt, but Mr. Blood requested me to stay until he had acquainted his Majesty or one of his Secretaries with it to know his pleasure as to my going or stay. John Bixby.

Sworn before me 17th. of January
 1678. J. Williamson.

Satur-

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till Munday, But if I hear any thing in the mean^e time I will write to you, and it shall be left at Mr. Brooks his Lodging, I hear (said I) the Parliament is Prorogued, thats true enough said he, and till they meet again we can receive no great damage; but (said he) I hear the Apprentices are ready to rise and pull down Newgate (said I) then I suppose that is because the men^e are not executed, what else (said he) and that's our great danger, that the people should run into a Rebellion Jesuits before we accomplish our business. (I asked him if he had taken an abstract as he said he would of what that man^e in the Prison could swear) to take off Mr. Bedlows Evidence, why One Brewer we are sure enough of him, & shall make Bedlow Rogue enough, pray said I, what will he swear, why, that the very morning the Proclamation came forth concerning Sr. Edmund Bury Godfrey, Mr. Bedlow came to his Chamber, and asked him if he had ever seen Sr. Edmund Bury Godfrey for (saith he) if I knew what a like man he was, I could easily get 500 l. and however I am resolved to hazard my neck but I will have it, and that he would have had some men have gone with him to Somerset House to see the Rooms, and promised to get him money if he would go with him, but (said I) Mr. Neuervile, it is said that Bedlow was out of town before the Proclamation came out, that is not so saith he, for this mans wife went into the Countrey with him; a great deal of discourse more we had, all tending to the encouraging of me to carry on this business (to turn this Plott to be a Protestant Plott for the destruction of the Papists) and then I should be made for ever). when I paid the reckoning and was coming away, saith he (you will alwaies come to your charge) but I hope the end will pay for all.

On Wednesday the 22th. at night I went to Mr. Nettervill expecting to have the model how they would have me swear, and in what Goldsmiths hands they would put the 500 l. but as

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soon as ever I came to him, he told me that he had been put into such a fright that he never was in all his life before, for (said he) Mr. Oats, Mr. Bedlow and Sr. Will. Waller and another Justice have been with me, they call'd for Irons, one would have fifty pound weight, another an hundred pound weight put upon me, at length Sr. Will. Waller began to examine me and told me he knew I could discover a great deal, so I desired the rest might be put out of the room, and I confess'd all to him and the other Justice, they both promising me my pardon; have you confessed all said I? how could I help it said he, I was never in such a fright in all my life, and they promised me my pardon, what have you confessed (said I?) I have told them (said he) that 500 l. was to be deposited in a Goldsmiths hands, and that I had sent for a Gentleman and treated with him about it, have you told them my name, said I? (he paus'd at that) no said he but I must tell them, but I thought fir st to acquaint you with it, then said I it seems you have left me in the Lurch and made no provision for me, therefore since it is so, you must give me leave to play my own game, and seeing you have confessed, let us now play our game as well as we can on the other side, and be sure to be ingenious and confess what ever we know, I will immediately to Sr. Joseph Williamson and declare the whole story, pray do so, neglect no time but go to night, and so we parted.

The Depositions of Alderman Brooks.

That on or about the 23th. of Decem. 16-8. I was at the Marshalseas in Southwark, where was one James Nettervill a Prisoner there for Debt, who desired me to do so much for him as to carry a note for a friend of his that was a Prisoner also, unto one Piercy Butler, who lived in St. Germain Street, near my Lodging, and said, if I would procure any of his friends to come to his friend there, he would have money enough, whereof he should have a share, and it would also be a great kindness to him, whereupon I told him

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would, provided he would write it quickly; whereupon he call'd forth his friend, and they two consulted together, and he wrote two or three lines and gave them me for the said Butler, but when I came to the place where I was directed, they told me he was gone out of town in obedience to the Kings Proclamation, and so I troubled my self no further, but put the Note in my pocket.

The next morning he sent a messenger to me, to know what I had done in it, I desired him to tell Mr. Nett. that the said Butler was gone out of town in obedience to his Majesties Proclamation.

About 10 daies after I had occasion for some wast paper, & putting my hand in my pocket I light on this note that I should have delivered to Butler, & I opened it & read it & found in it these words, written, or to this effect.

Sr. I am here committed by the name of *Daniel Edmonds* by a Justice of Peace in the Countrey as being a Recusant, & therefore I desire of you, that you will come unto me here, that I may advise with you, and in so doing you will oblige, your friend *Dominick Kelley*.

It is run in my mind till about the 15th instant at night, and then being at Mr. Prockers Coffee house at *Charing Cross*, where I met with a Paper intituled, *Mr. Prances discovery of the Plot*, and of *Sr. Edmund Bury Godfreys Murderers*, wherein (amongst other things) there was mentioned two Irish Priests to be guilty, the one named *Gerrald*, and the other *Kelley*, whereupon it came into my mind that the man I was to carry the note for into *St. Germaines street* must be the same Kelley, because by that Note he was committed by the name of *Edmonds*, and his name was Kelley.

The next morning being the 16th. of this instant *January* (thinking to have found the same Kelley there) I came there, and coming to the aforesaid Nett. and after some secret discourse I asked him how his friend did that I carried the Note for, he told me that he was gone, I asked him how he got out, he told me he procured Bapl, then I asked him what he was, he told me that he was a Priest, and one of those that *Oars that Rogue* had impeached, I asked him how he could get Bapl being a Priest, he told me they did not know that he was a Priest, and those that were his Bapl would

would be Bapt for any one for money, and he gave them ten shillings a piece, and the fellow that procured them 5 shillings, & he got them the Copy of his Committal for 5 s. to move by, and the Priest promised him the said Nettervill seven pounds, but he had not left it him as yet, and so we left this d. course and came to other.

That he having sent by me a Letter and a Petition to Mrs. Elianor Wall a Gentlewoman that belongs to the Dutches of Portsmouth, (whom he calls Cozen) whereby to get him some money for his present supply, but I having no opportunity to meet with her, could give him no account of that matter, whereupon he said he was in such want, that if he had not help speedily, he should be turn'd into the Common side, I told him that money was so scarce with me that I could not lend him any, but if I could I would: Whereupon he called me aside into the corner of the yard by the Gate, and told me that if I would be rid by him, he would put me into a way whereby we should have money enough, I asked him how, he told me that if I would but joyn and assist to villifie the Evidence of Oats and Bedlow those two Rogues. Whereupon I laughed at him and said it is impossible, their Evidence was groundd upon too good a foundation, he told me I was mistaken, and I should hear otherwise in a little while.

Upon the 17th. of January I went again to him thinking to have gathered something of him what was become of this Priest, but could not, and was taking my leave of him, saying, I must go home, for I had some business to write for Ireland, to send by Cap. Bury, who was to go on Munday, he told me he believed he should stop Cap. Buries journey, I told him I hoped not so, he answered it should not be to his prejudice, to which I answered, why then withal my heart, for I would not be against any thing that should be for his good. And so there came in one (Russel) an Irish man that had some business with him, and so we parted.

BROOKS.

Now

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Now Reader thou hast seen the whole contrivance, and maist easily discern what the intentions of the Romanists were, what the natural consequence thereof would have been, I leave to thy own conjecture, and shall only add this (true circumstance) a farther confirmation of their wicked designs in this matter. *viz.*

That several persons (by them appointed) were a little before this discovery at the houses of some Presbyterians, well known in the City of *London*, to pray their charitable contribution towards the maintenance of Mr. *Oates* and Mr. *Bedlow*, upon this specious (though false) suggestion. That his Majesties allowance was not sufficient for their encouragement, but the parties to whom they applied themselves (supposing their intentions were to abuse their King and Countrey, and to procure coyn for themselves) rejected them with checks. And it was well they did, for otherwise who knows what advantage they might have made thereof, in order to the effecting their wicked enterprize.

And thus I have done, trusting to the Readers candor (which if a Protestant I do not doubt of) if a Papist, neither expect or care for it, I being one of a quite different Principle; and one whose Prayers as well as Endeayours) shall be constantly Engaged, for the frustration of their hellish attempts.

Concerning my intentions in the Publication of these Depositions, they were only for the publike good, and to Expose to view the wicked subtilties of these men, that the Nation (and all true Protestants) may be made sensible of their devices, that if ever they use the same, or the like again, they may be with the more ease detected and rendred Abortive: And also that all sincere Christians, may ascribe the praise of all their Deliverances (as well of this as others) to that God who hath so visibly and constantly appeared for the Vindication of his People, and for the insatiating the persons, as well as rendering unsuccessful the attempts of His, and Their Implacable Enemies.

F I N I S.